the guise of 3 Formyl Rifa SV have come to the notice of his Ministry;

(c) whether it is a fact that Rifampicin was being sold at Rs. 2400 per Kg. upto August, 1988, when the import content was $ 209 per Kg. in domestic production; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by his Ministry to investigate the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) The price of Rifampicin bulk drug was fixed at Rs. 3098 per Kg. in October, 1986 based on the recommendation of BICP and was subsequently reduced to Rs. 3000 per Kg. in January, 1987 and further reduced to Rs. 2500 per Kg. on 28-9-1988. International prices of bulk drugs and intermediates fluctuate widely from time to time.

Report about the Categorisation of Vitamins

1430 SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 353 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 22nd August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kelkar Committee recommended that combination of vitamin formulations would be price controlled whereas single ingredient vitamin formulations would be price decontrolled;

(b) whether it is a fact that the list of category II bulk drugs recommended by Kelkar Committee includes Vitamins A, B1, B2, C and B6, etc.

(c) whether it is also a fact that vitamin bulk drugs were price decontrolled by the Ministry at their own level and this resulted in steep increases in their prices;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Kelkar Committee has submitted supplementary report after removing discrepencies and anomalies;

(e) when was the report submitted and what are their recommendations in respect of bulk vitamins;

(f) what are the details of main recommendations and what are the names of bulk drugs which have been recommended for inclusion on the basis of representations?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The Kelkar Committee recommended that all vitamins when used in combinations would come under category II of price control and that if used singly would not be price controlled. Keeping in view these recommendations, bulk vitamins were kept out of control. However Vitamins A and C are since being brought under price conrtol;

(d) to (f) The Supplementary report submitted by the Kelkar Committee is under examination.

Details of Overcharging

1431. SHRI ASHOK NATH VERMA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 394 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 29th August, 1988 and state:

(a) when was the details in regard to overcharging asked in respect to the drugs mentioned under Annexure-I alongwith the names of drug companies from whom details were called;

(b) the names of the companies who provided the details;

(c) whether it is a fact that the most of the companies did not respond;

(d) if so, what action was taken by his Ministry against such companies so as to obtain the details;